



Westlands Water District

3130 N. Fresno Street, P.O. Box 6056, Fresno, California 93703-6056, (559) 224-1523, FAX (559) 241-6277

July 25, 2016

This notice contains important information about the following:

- **2016 CVP Operations Update**

2016 CVP Operations Update

Central Valley Project water supplies continue to put a strain on federal and state water deliveries in the San Luis Reservoir. The Bureau of Reclamation has had to take unprecedented steps to ensure water is available for all contract users. Consequently, last week the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority was notified by the Bureau of Reclamation that all Federal water in San Luis Reservoir would have been exhausted by midnight Sunday, July 24, 2016, and to prepare for shutdown at O'Neill generation. In the same notification, District staff was informed the shutdown could have occurred as early as 6 p.m. on Saturday, July 23, 2016.

Upon notification of the potential shutdown, District staff took immediate action to schedule deliveries of other sources of water supply that would have kept the District from disruption of surface water deliveries to water users. M&I water users would not have been impacted. To avert the shutdown, District staff worked concurrently with Reclamation and the State Water Resources Control Board to effectuate a transfer of water. In subsequent hours, Reclamation received approval from the State Water Resources Control Board on its petition to allow a total of 62,000 AF of water stored in the State share of the San Luis Reservoir to be moved to the Federal share.

Although the shutdown of the San Luis Unit of the CVP continues to present a water supply problem for federal contractors, the District's water supply was never in jeopardy and has sufficient water resources to handle the demands of its growers; the District does not anticipate a disruption in service. This is the result of District staff's diligent efforts and planning.

Absent changes in the way the CVP is operated, the same conditions continue to exist that precipitated the crisis. To avoid a repeat of the extraordinary actions of last week, Members of Congress have asked state and federal agencies for increased releases from Millerton Lake by approximately 500 cfs, and increased releases from Shasta Reservoir.

The District will provide additional updates as needed.

No. 478